



Urban District of Clevedon.

R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1914.

Population of the District (Census, 1911)	..	..	..	6,111
Population, estimated at middle of 1914	..	..	..	6,195
Area in Statute Acres	..	..	..	3,027
Birth-rate per 1,000 of Population	..	..	..	15.17
Death-rate per 1,000 of Population (corrected)	..	..	..	11.91
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.3
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births	..	..	..	63.82

REPORT.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of
Clevedon.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to present my Report of the Health and Sanitary conditions of this District for the year 1914.

A. NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

(1). *Physical Features and General Character.*—Clevedon is a Health Resort and Residential Town, situated on the Southern shore of the Bristol Channel or “Severn Sea.” The residential part of the town lies from 100 to 200 feet above the sea level, and is sheltered from the N.E. by Dial Hill, 296 feet, and from the E. by Court Hill, 300 feet above ordnance datum. The soil is sandy over rocks of carboniferous limestone. The climate is mild and equable, with a comparatively large amount of sunshine and freedom from fog and thunderstorms.

(2). *The Social Conditions.*—The resident population consists largely of retired persons of mature age and invalids, besides several large Boarding Schools; consequently the birth-rate is low, and the death-rate is somewhat higher than that among an average population living under similar conditions.

The industrial population consists of the usual Artisans, Gardeners and workers in the Boot Factory, Printing Works, and Steam Laundry. Clevedon is included within the Poor-law District of Long Ashton, with a Workhouse at Flax Bourton. There is a Cottage Hospital with six beds and a Provident Dispensary.

B. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT
AND
C. SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supplies :

1. Name of supply : Clevedon Water Co.
2. Provided and owned by same.
3. Nature of supply.
 - a. Nature of the water—Well.
 - b. Gathering area, exact extent unknown ; drawn from Trias (red and white marls), pumping station on Tickenham Road, about a mile from the town, with one acre of ground, and old station in town.
 - c. No known liability to contamination.
4. Engineering points :
 - a. Yield, over 50,000 gallons per hour.
 - b. Pumping seven days per week. Duplicate being put in at New Works, in addition to plant at Old Works.
 - c. Reservoirs. Two supply reservoirs on Dial Hill with total capacity of 338,000 gallons ; brick and stone, with clay puddle, covered.
 - d. Sufficiency of Supply. Amount per head available of over 90 gallons per day ; there is no shortage. Average consumption for 1914 was 28.7 gallons per day per head.
 - e. No purification processes required or employed.
5. Financial particulars :
 - a. Expenditure on Works Account to December 31st, 1913, £38,383 19s. 8d.
6. Area supplied :
Clevedon (3,027 acres) and portion of Parishes of Kenn, Tickenham, and Walton-in-Gordano.
7. Composition of the Water :

Samples analysed at Somerset County Council's Laboratory

<i>Chemical Analysis.</i>					<i>No. of Sample C. 160</i>
Physical Characters	..	..	..	..	Clear and Colourless.
Reaction	..	..	..	..	Slightly Alkaline.
Total Solids	..	..	..	..	43.6
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	35.4
(a) Temporary	..	..	..	..	21.6
(b) Permanent	..	..	..	..	13.8
Chlorine (in terms of Sodium Chloride)	..	..	..	..	5.5
Nitrogen as Saline and free Ammonia	..	..	..	..	Nil.
" " Albuminoid	..	..	..	..	0.002
" " Nitrates	..	..	..	..	0.35
" " Nitrites	..	..	..	..	Nil.

Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate,	4	
hours at 80°F.	0.01	
Sediment	Minute.	

The Chemical Analysis shows the above sample to be quite satisfactory.

Bacteriological Examination.

No. of Sample,
B. 1,147.

No. of organisms developing per cubic		
centimetre	at 37°C.	2
" " " " " " " " " "	at 21°C.	4
Bacillus Coli	Absent from 50 c.c.s.	
Streptococci	Absent from 50 c.c.s.	

The results of Bacteriological examination of the above sample are quite satisfactory ; there is no evidence of any contamination.

Rivers and Streams.—The three Commission rivers under the control of the Council have been periodically cleansed.

Drainage and Sewerage.—Considerable progress has been made with the new sewer, for which a loan was obtained after the L.G.B. inquiry in October, 1913. The whole system of existing sewers has been regularly flushed and the main sewer cleansed. All new sanitary and alterations are tested hydraulically. Nearly all houses have water-closets, those inside with flushing tanks, those outside being generally hand flushed.

Scavenging.—The removal of house refuse is done once a week by contract and tipped at a distance from the town. The number of loads of house refuse removed was 1,844.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.—Repairs and renewals to drains, water closets, sinks, &c., to the number of 107, have been effected, 29 general nuisances abated, seven house refuse complaints attended to, and three road scavenging notices served.

Common Lodging Houses.—Two in the district have been constantly inspected. In one case, after repeated notices to cleanse and colour wash, the occupier was summoned at the Petty Sessions and fined. One instance of overcrowding was abated.

Public Slaughter House.—Has been regularly inspected and condition found to be satisfactory. Various repairs have been carried out. One carcase of beef was condemned and destroyed. There are no private slaughter houses in the district.

Public Elementary Schools.—These have been inspected, are in good sanitary condition, and have public water supply. At the East Clevedon School new w.c.'s have been put in and other improvements made. The medical inspection of school children is carried out by the County authority. The Undenominational School was closed by the Chief School Medical Officer for three weeks on account of measles, and children were at various times excluded from school for measles and whooping cough.

FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply* is of excellent character, is almost entirely produced within the district, and the condition of the dairies, milk-shops, and utensils is satisfactory. Frequent inspections are made. Six notices were served to cleanse and whitelime cowsheds and to cleanse yards. One new cowshed has been built in place of a defective one condemned.

Number of persons entered on register (complete) .. 29

Number of Cowkeepers 21

No action was needed as to tuberculous milk.

(b) *Other Foods*.—Meat at Public Slaughter House, at shops and Public Market is inspected. The sanitary condition of the premises is good and no tuberculosis found. One carcase of beef was condemned as unfit for food and destroyed.

There are twelve Bakehouses, none underground. These have been periodically inspected, have good water supply and efficient sanitary arrangements. One notice was served to cleanse and whitelime and one to provide w.c. accommodation.

(c) *Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts*.—The provisions of these Acts are usually carried out by the police authorities ; no necessity has arisen for the local authority to take action.

Housing.—The character of houses for the working classes is good and more than sufficient for the needs of a population which is practically stationary. No new houses have been built. Plans for new houses must be submitted to, supervised and passed by the Council, under the By-law of 1890.

Particulars of work done under Housing Act :—

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Sanitary District | Clevedon |
| 2. New houses erected during 1914 | nil. |
| 3. Number of houses inspected during 1914 under the
Housing Act, 1909 | 76 |
| 4. Results of such inspections— | |
| (a) Number reported as unfit for human habitation .. | nil. |
| (b) Number defective, but with defects not sufficient
to report as unfit for habitation | 76 |
| (c) Number without recorded sanitary defects .. | nil. |

5. Action taken and results in regard to houses reported as unfit during 1913 and 1914, as follows :—

						For houses re- ported during	
						1913.	1914.
Number as reported	..	..	..	..	..	1	nil.
Closing order made	..	..	..	..	..	1	nil.
Made fit without a closing order	..	..	..	..	..	nil.	nil.
Still unfit but no closing order made	..	..	..	..	..	nil.	nil.
Demolished	..	..	..	..	..	nil.	nil.
Put in repair after closing order	..	..	..	..	..	nil.	nil.
Still closed at end of 1914	..	..	..	..	..	1	nil.

6. Action taken with regard to defective houses but not sufficient to report as unfit, as follows :—

						For houses first examined during	
						1913.	1914.
Number so examined	..	..	..	..	..	121	76
Number with defects remedied by the end of 1914	..	..	..	..	..	82	9
Number still defective at end of 1914	..	..	..	..	..	39	67
Number not yet visited to ascertain if defects are remedied	..	..	..	..	..	—	—

7. Cases of Overcrowding dealt with during the year .. — 1

8. Parishes in which there is evidence of shortage of
houses, and steps taken to remedy .. — —

Workshops, Workplaces, &c.—The Boot Factory and Steam Laundry are in good condition as regards cleanliness, ventilation, and sanitary arrangements. No lists of outworkers were received during the year. The twelve bakehouses, none underground, are in generally good condition and regularly inspected ; one notice was served to cleanse and whiteme.

Isolation Hospital provided by the Council within the district and about a mile from the town, and at a distance from other buildings, consists of a two-storied stone building, containing two wards, bathroom, kitchen, &c., and accommodation for nurses. It provides twelve beds, and an adjoining cottage is available for extra cases or convalescents. Twenty-three cases of scarlet fever were admitted during the year. The accommodation has so far proved sufficient. Two cases remained in Hospital on December 31st.

Steam Disinfector (Thresh's) is kept in a shed at the Isolation Hospital, and two sheds are provided to receive infected and disinfected articles. 1,598 articles were disinfected during the year.

Disinfection of rooms is done with formalin vapour or spraying with disinfecting fluid and of clothing and other articles in steam disinfectors. Spraying is used after death or removal of tuberculous cases, followed generally by white-washing and re-papering.

Local or General Adoptive Acts.

Local Acts.—Clevedon Local Board Act, 1891.

Acts adopted by the Council.—

- (1). The Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.
- (2). The Infective Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.
- (3). The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. Parts II. and III.
- (4). The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. Part II., certain sections of Part III. and Parts IV., V., VI., and X.

D. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of notifications received was 55, namely :—

Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	6
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	32
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	16
Other Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	1

23 of the 32 cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Scarlet Fever.—On January 1st fourteen cases remained in Hospital from the previous year. Fifteen were notified during the first quarter of the year, of which eleven were removed to Hospital. All were discharged by May 6th, and the Hospital closed. There were no cases during the summer. In the fourth quarter of the year seventeen cases were notified, eight of these occurring in one institution. Twelve were admitted into Hospital, where two remained at the end of the year. There were no “return cases,” all were of a mild type, and no deaths occurred.

Diphtheria.—The one case, of unknown origin, and notified in November, resided on the outskirts of the district.

Measles was somewhat prevalent during April and May. Some children were excluded from school on this account, and one school was closed by the Chief School Medical Officer. One death was reported from broncho-pneumonia and measles, a child of two years of age.

Whooping Cough.—Some children were excluded from school for whooping cough during October and November. There were no deaths from this complaint.

E. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER TUBERCULOSIS.

Sixteen cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, and none of other forms; seven deaths were reported. The notifications of all cases are forwarded weekly to the County Medical Officer, and visits paid then, and subsequently by the County Health Visitor. Disinfectants are supplied on request by the Council, and disinfection of rooms by spraying, followed by repapering and white-washing, and of bedding, &c., in steam disinfectors. Institutional treatment is provided by the County.

F. INVESTIGATION OF OTHER DISEASES.

I have nothing to report as to "any influences threatening the health of the district." Rickets is rare, acute rheumatism almost unknown, and the general health of the district is good. There was one death from enteritis, a child five years of age, and very few cases occurred.

G. MEANS OF PREVENTING MORTALITY IN CHILD BIRTH AND IN INFANCY.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907, has not been adopted. The total number of births was 92; all are attended by a doctor or a qualified mid-wife, and as at present no special arrangements are made locally for dealing with maternity and child welfare, the notification of births would serve no useful purpose.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—This disease, "a purulent discharge from the eyes of an infant, commencing within twenty-one days from the date of its birth," was by a general order of the Local Government Board, dated 5th February, 1914, made compulsorily notifiable from the 1st of April. The provisions of the order were considered by the Council at their meeting in March, and the M.O.H. empowered to make any necessary arrangements for nursing or treatment if and when any cases occurred. No cases have been notified, and I may add that I have only seen two cases in Clevedon in nineteen years.

H. VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT. (TABLES I.—IV.)

Births in 1914.—The number of births registered in the District was 92 (49 boys and 43 girls); adding one male and one female born outside the District, the total number of births is 94, of which four were illegitimate. The birth-rate is therefore 15.17 per 1,000 of population. This is about the average for the past five years. The birth-rate for England and Wales for 1914 was 23.77.

Mortality in 1914.—The number of deaths registered in the District was 88. Subtracting five of non-residents registered in the District and adding eight of residents registered elsewhere, we get a net total of 91 belonging to the District, giving a local uncor-

rected death-rate of 14.68 per 1,000 of population. I have pointed out in previous reports that our population, consisting largely of old people and invalids, this rate cannot fairly be compared with that of the County generally. Using the factor given by the Registrar-General of correction for age and sex distribution in this District, the true corrected death-rate is found to be 11.81. This is about the average for this District.

Of the 91 deaths 33 were of males and 58 of females.

The natural increase of population, excess of births over deaths, was 3.

Ages at Death.—These were as follows :—

Under 1 year	6
1 and under 2 years	0
2 and under 5 years	1
5 and under 15 years	4
15 and under 25 years	2
25 and under 45 years	9
45 and under 65 years	23
65 and upwards	46
<hr/>	
Total	91

Of those over 65 years,

21 were between 80 and 90.

3 were between 90 and 100.

Causes of Death.—There were two deaths among the “seven principal zymotic diseases,” namely, one from measles and one from enteritis. This gives a zymotic death-rate of 0.3 per 1,000.

The other chief diseases which caused death were :—

Tuberculosis	7
Cancer, malignant disease	8
Bronchitis	3
Pneumonia	1
Heart Disease	14
Nephritis and Bright’s Disease	10
Accident	1
Old Age	14

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under one year of age was six, the rate per 1,000 births being 63.82 as compared with 110 for England and Wales. The causes of these deaths were one from bronchitis, two from premature birth, two to debility from birth, and one from convulsions.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER J. HILL, L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S.,
Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I. CLEVEDON URBAN DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Var.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Num'b'r	Rate.	Of Non- residents registered in the District. 8	Of Residents not registered in the District. 9	Under One Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate.					Num'r	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			10	11	12	13
1909	6326	101		15.96	80	12.64	2	1	9	89.1	79	12.48
1910	6326	96		15.17	63	9.95	5	3	5	52.08	61	9.64
1911	6111	97		15.87	84	13.74	2	7	7	72.26	89	14.56
1912	6111	79	80	13.09	79	12.92	2	9	8	100.	86	14.07
1913	6111	88	89	14.56	83	13.58	4	7	7	78.65	86	14.07
1914	6195	92	94	15.17	88	14.2	5	3	6	63.82	91	14.68

Area of district in acres (land and inland water).	3,027	Total population at all ages	6,111	At Census of 1911.

TABLE II.
CLEVEDON URBAN DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	Number of Cases Notified.							Total Cases removed to Hospital.
		At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox	0	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Cholera	0	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	6	...	...	...	...	4	1	1	...
Scarlet fever	32	...	3	24	5	...	..	...	23
Typhus fever	0	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	...
Enteric fever	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing fever	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever	0	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Puerperal fever	0	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	0	..	..	..	...	..	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	16	..	..	3	2	8	3	...	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..
Totals	55	...	3	28	7	12	4	1	23

Isolation Hospital, within the district, Clevedon Urban District Council.

TABLE III.
CLEVEDON URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1914.

[illegible]

TABLE IV.

CLEVEDON URBAN DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1914.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1914.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

[illegible]

CLUTTON RDC.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1914.

The **Death Rate** was crude 11.5.

net 11.81.

Corrected for age and sex distribution 10.2617

The **Birth Rate** was uncorrected 20.03.

corrected 20.15.

Infant Mortality was 52.46.

Zymotic Mortality .43.

Vital Statistics for Rural England and Wales.

(for comparison)

Death rate uncorrected 13.9. Corrected 13.6.

Birth rate 23.6.

Infant Mortality 105 per 1,000 born.

It will be seen that the statistics of the district compare favourably with the rest of the country, and are even rather better than last year.

BIRTHS.

Total number registered in the District, 322.

Corrected No. 324.

Rate per 1,000 20.15.

No. 1 District—Farrington Gurney, Ston Easton and Chilcompton 38

No. 2 District—Paulton, Chelwood, High Littleton, Timsbury, Farmborough 148

No 3 District—Chew Magna, Chew Stoke, Stowey, Norton Malreward, Stanton Drew and Publow 74

No. 4 District—Hinton Blewett, East and West Harptree, Clutton, Compton Martin, Ubley, Nempnett, Widcombe and Litton 64

DEATHS.

Total number registered in the District, 185.

No. 1 District 16.

No. 2 District 67.

No. 3 District 43.

No. 4 District 59.

11 Non-residents died and have to be subtracted.

2 were in No. 2 District and 9 were in No. 4 District.

16 residents died away from the district and have to be added.

No. 1 District 1.

No. 2 District 3.

No. 3 District 7.

No. 4 District 5.

Corrected number of deaths 190.

ZYMOTIC MORTALITY.

Calculated on the seven principal diseases, Scarlet Fever 0, Whooping Cough 0, Small Pox 0, Measles 0, Continued Fever 0, Diarrhœa 4, Diphtheria 3, Total number 7.

Rate per 1,000 .43.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Of 324 children born in the district, 17 died under 1 year old.

Rate per 1,000 52.59.

POPULATION.

Census 1911, 16075.

I have based my calculations on these figures as I do not consider there is any reliable means of estimating them correctly. In certain parts it is very "shifting" owing to the development of coal mines at one part, and the closing or partial closing of them at another; there are also considerable numbers of emigrants every year to Canada and Australia, whose number cannot be ascertained.

Hospital treatment is readily available at the fine institutions of Bath and Bristol.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.—Very undulating, well wooded and watered. Geological formation much varied and broken up, with numerous fissures (or faults) in the rock. The whole district rests on rocks of the Carboniferous period overlaid by secondary strata. There are large areas of lime-stone beds, which are very pervious to water—above this limestone and millstone grit are the coal measures, extending through almost the whole district—much broken and disturbed. New Red Marl covers a considerable portion of the North West ; and at its junction with the coal measures much water, “ red ground water ” is apt to be met with in sinking pits.

OCCUPATIONS.—Coal mining in the Eastern portion of the district is the chief source of employment, the population of the remaining part are mainly engaged in agricultural pursuits, of which Dairy farming is the most important. Cheese and butter are made in large quantities and are both excellent, the district being celebrated for the quality of its Cheddar Cheese. Milk is sent away daily, in quantity, to London, Bristol, Cardiff and other centres of population. Boot and shoe making is carried on at Paulton. Iron Ore is manufactured into Colour and Paint at Littleton, Chew Stoke. Stone Quarrying is carried on in some parts. Employment varies ; in some of the mining villages it is slack, men at Farmborough, Timsbury and High Littleton have to go 4 or 5 miles to their work, owing to closure or lessened out-put of local pits. Agricultural labourers find ready employment and at increased wages, in fact, the demand is more than the supply, as many of the best men leave the country every year for Canada and Australia.

HOUSE TO HOUSE VISITATION.—This work has been continued on the same lines as in previous years. 320 houses have been reported on during the year, as against 173 last year. Of these 14 were found to have serious defects which required remedying to make them fit for habitation ; these defects were scheduled and the owners were given notice that they must be attended to at once. 244 had minor defects, which were put right by the owners, or are in hand, and 76 had no recorded defects. 14 closing orders were applied for, for houses at Chew Magna but the Council deferred the matter on account of the shortage of houses in that District.

A table is appended showing the actual results of the year's working.

I cannot too strongly emphasize the importance of this work, and it is very pleasing to note the vast increase of inspections over last year.

What can be done towards improving old dilapidated property is very clearly shown by some of the work that has been done during the last four years in the villages that have been **Systematically** inspected.

By providing proper ventilation, preventing damp and attending to water supply and drainage, much improvement has been effected.

Chew Magna and Paulton were personally visited by me last year as a preliminary to systematic inspection. The former has been completed as far as inspections go, and of the latter some 244 houses have been inspected by Mr. Davey. After Paulton has been completed, Timsbury will be done.

17 new buildings were completed and passed during the year ; 20, for which plans have been passed, are in hand.

There is a shortage of houses at Chew Magna, Stanton Drew and Publow. I do not know of a single void house in any of these parishes ; the shortage is due to development of the Pensford and Bromley Coal Pits, and to the need of a suitable water supply. It is hoped the Council, having defeated the West Gloucester Bill, will provide water at an early date, when private enterprise will probably meet the demand for houses.

All inspection is done by Mr. Davey under my supervision.

HOUSING DETAILS.

1. Sanitary District.	Clutton Rural District.
2. New Houses erected during 1914	17 completed ; 20 in hand.
3. Number houses of inspected during 1914, under the Housing Act 1909 ..	320
(This does not include re-inspection of houses previously inspected).	
4. Results of inspections of the fresh houses inspected during 1914, classified as follows :—	
(a) Number reported as unfit for human habitation	14
(b) Number defective, but with defects not sufficient to report as unfit for habitation	230
(c) Number without recorded sanitary defects ..	76

5. Action taken and results in regard to houses re- ported as unfit during 1913 and 1914 as follows	For houses reported during	
	1913	1914
Number as reported.. ..	15	14
Closing Order made ..	2	—
Made fit without a Closing Order	5	—
Still unfit but no Closing Order made	—	14
Demolished	—	—
Put in repair after Closing Order	—	—
Still closed at end of 1914	2	—

6. Action taken with regard to defective houses, but not sufficient to report as unfit, as follows :—	For houses first examined during	
	1913	1914
Number so examined ..	136	230
Number with the defects remedied by the end of 1914	104	45 done, 120 in hand.
Number still defective at end of 1914	32	35
Number not yet visited to ascertain if defects are remedied	—	30
7. Cases of overcrowding dealt with during the year ..	1	5

8. Parishes in which there is evidence of shortage of houses, and steps taken to remedy Chew Magna, Stanton Drew, and Publow.

No steps have been taken, as it may be only a temporary shortage.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—The Register has been kept up. There are 332 on it, 313 of these are cow keepers, and the rest are milk sellers. This work, which in my opinion comes next in importance to that of Systematic House Inspection, has been diligently carried out during the year, but, as in most other Rural Districts, the amount of Systematic Supervision exercised is not as it should be. Periodic inspections are absolutely necessary to enforce provision of satisfactory sheds with suitable drainage, ventilation and lighting, as well as seeing that proper precautions as to cleanliness of the workers and their vessels are observed.

Many of the premises I have visited during the year leave much to be desired in all these respects, but I should like to say also that I have been struck with the good condition of a great number of farm buildings and the care and cleanliness exercised by the farmers.

Under the recent order, notices as to cattle found to be suffering from Tuberculosis are sent to Mr. Davey. Premises are at once visited and steps taken to prevent the sale of milk from diseased animals, or their slaughtering for food.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply to the eight parishes remains abundant and constant. I have heard no complaints as to its quality. I

have sent various samples to Dairy Companies, who had contracts in the district, for analysis by their experts and the results communicated to me have been excellent.

At the same time, conditions exist at the source that are not altogether satisfactory, as I have previously reported, and I am still of opinion that suitable Filtration plant should be provided. Chilcompton is well supplied from Midsomer Norton. Bishop Sutton is partly supplied from Bristol Water Works Mains. Stowey and East Harptree by piped supplies, privately owned.

CHEW MAGNA.—This village is still without a water supply but the Council have offered prizes for the best schemes for supplying Chew Magna, Chew Stoke, Chelwood, Stanton Drew, Norton Malreward, and Publow.

DRAINAGE.

The Council have instructed Mr. Davey, the Sanitary Surveyor, to prepare Schemes for the Sewage Disposal of Rotcombe in the Parishes of High Littleton and Farmborough ; The Batch, High Littleton ; Hobb's Wall, Farmborough ; and the whole of the village of Paulton.

The former Scheme has already been submitted and approved of by the Council, and the other Schemes will be submitted at an early date.

The closet accommodation of the rest of the district is by privies and pail closets. Effects to improve the former are made where possible by substitution of a simple form of earth closet. There are still a large number of uncovered ash heaps about ; covered-in Sanitary bins are insisted on in all new houses, and in as many of the old ones as we can.

CHEW MAGNA.

No action has been taken, or can be taken, until a suitable water supply has been provided.

SCAVENGING.

There is no organised system of public scavenging in the District.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Here, as in most other districts, there is a certain amount of pollution from over-flowing cess-pits and direct outflow of certain village drains. Only a gradual improvement of main drainage can materially alter such conditions, which are too common throughout the country.

TUBERCULOSIS.

29 cases have been notified.

10 deaths have occurred.

A number of Health Visitors are at work in the country ; one of them visits every case notified, and gives advice as to the steps to be taken to prevent infection. She also reports all defects of Sanitation to the M.O.H., for the District, and afterwards keeps the case under observation. Contacts are examined by the Tuberculosis officers at the various Dispensaries.

Records of all cases in my district are kept.

Removals are notified by the Health Visitors.

Deaths are reported at once by the various registrars.

In both cases, disinfection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector at the earliest possible moment, by thoroughly spraying with strong solutions of Formalin, taking care that the walls and bedding and clothing are well covered with the fluid, walls are stripped by the householders and limewashed or re-papered. In bad cases, bedding is destroyed and compensation given, if really needed. It is to be hoped that the county will be successful in providing at an early date a Sanatorium, available to all suffering from this dire complaint.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

No action has been taken.

MID-WIVES ACT.

This is administered by the County Council, who employ an Inspectress and assistants. There is practically no unqualified woman now practising in this district. The Guardians pay a fee of £1 : 1 . 0 to any Medical man called in by a certified Midwife, if satisfied that the patient cannot pay, or does not come under the National Insurance Act.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

This is administered by the Police, who, I am informed, take numerous samples.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 28 on the list, all have been inspected, notices as to Limewashing, etc. have been served. They are kept in a satisfactory state—none are underground.

BYE-LAWS.

Building Bye-Laws for the District are in force, and are enforced in all cases.

There are also Bye-Laws relating to Cowsheds and Slaughter Houses.

SCHOOLS.

There are many good modern buildings with ample accommodation, sanitary arrangements and water supply being the best that can be arranged. In some of the smaller villages the schools are hardly up to modern requirements, but the numbers catered for are small, and there are no glaring defects. Building operations on the New Schools for Publow and Pensford were commenced early this year. Schools are closed by me when it seems necessary to do so in order to

check the spread of infectious disease. I have had no occasion to close any during the past year. It is usually done for Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Small Pox, or Typhoid. During an epidemic of measles attendance often falls so low that work is disorganised and the grant for attendance may be lost ; the School is usually closed under such circumstances by the Chief School Medical Officer for the County, for economic reasons. All children suffering from, or suspected to be suffering from, infectious illness are, after due inquiry, excluded from School for suitable periods ; information is sent me periodically by the various School teachers. School Inspection is under the control of the County Council and their Chief Medical Officer ; it is administered in this district by Dr. Pollard acting as a part time Officer.

LICENSED LODGING HOUSES.

None.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 21 on the register. I have visited most of these myself during the year, and numerous visits have been paid by Mr. Davey. Attention has been paid to limewashing and cleanliness generally ; they require very constant visiting to prevent the manufacture of articles of food, such as sausages, the storage of pickled meat, etc., in the slaughtering houses. It is almost impossible to exercise proper supervision of meat killed in so many places, but fortunately most of what is used comes in already killed from other districts, where there are presumably public abattoirs. Mr. Davey holds the meat certificate and has had considerable experience of inspection. He has paid much attention to this work and informs me that no unsound meat has been met with during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Proposed Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital—No great progress appears to have been made.

PRESENT PROCEDURE.—Every case is visited on notification, and as many times afterwards as can be arranged. Disinfectants are supplied and printed instructions are left. A stamped and addressed Post Card is also left to be signed by the Doctor in attendance when he considers the case no longer infectious. On receipt of the card, the premises are disinfected with Formalin, either in the form of vapour from a candle, or as a spray, with a McKenzie's Spray. We have no steam disinfecter. Children from infected houses are excluded from School for suitable periods. No Diphtheria case is set free until a negative swab is secured. Carriers and contacts are carefully sought out. Antitoxin is supplied free to Medical Men for patients unable to pay for it.

Bacteriological work continues to be gratuitously done at the County Laboratory, at Weston-super-Mare, and is of the very greatest assistance to me in the administration of Public Health Work in the district.

NOTIFICATIONS.

Under the Act, 77 were reported to me during the year, Diphtheria 9, Erysipelas 9, Scarlet Fever 25, Puerperal Fever 2, Ophthalmia Neonatorum 3, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 25, other Tuberculosis 4.

The Diphtheria cases were all isolated and not set free until negative swabs were obtained ; search was made in every case for contacts and carriers, as the disease is always contracted, and sanitary conditions have little to do with it, beyond making the person susceptible by reason of lowered vitality.

It is difficult to secure proper isolation, as many of the houses are such that it cannot be insisted on, and parents are loth to believe the disease is dangerous as it is said to be, there having been so few fatal cases owing to the prompt administration of antitoxin, and they cannot realize that children, apparently well in themselves, can be a source of serious and even fatal illness to others ; they keep them fairly well isolated for the first few days while the children are more or less ill, but they soon tire of that, and they are allowed to mix with others when they think they will not be found out. The disease can only be controlled effectively by prompt admission of all cases to an Isolation Hospital.

The Scarlet Fever cases were all isolated as far as practicable.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—This disease has been made notifiable. I am empowered to provide treatment where it is necessary. Three cases have been notified during the year.

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE.

Tuberculosis—10 deaths.

Cancer—17 deaths.

Bronchitis—9 deaths.

Pneumonia—16 deaths.

Heart Disease—26 deaths.

Bright's Disease—10 deaths.

Premature Births and Congenital Debility—10 deaths.

Infectious Diseases—8 deaths.

(**Diphtheria**—3 deaths. .

Diarrhœa—4 deaths.

Erysipelas—1 death).

Measles has been very prevalent throughout the year, necessitating the closing of a number of Schools.

For comparison, I give the corresponding figure for last year.

Tuberculosis—12 deaths.

Cancer—20 deaths.

Bronchitis—15 deaths.

Pneumonia—2 deaths.

Heart Disease—20 deaths.

Bright's Disease—4 deaths.

Premature Births, including Debility, 8 deaths.

Infectious Diseases—13 deaths.

Measles—8 deaths.

Diphtheria—2 deaths.

Diarrhœa—3 deaths.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

Factories 18. Workshops 132. (Outworkers 10. Shoemakers and tailors, all registered).

They have on the whole been found satisfactory. No important defects have been discovered, registers have been kept and a detailed report is enclosed, a copy of which has been sent to the Home Office. The prescribed forms for outworkers have been supplied by the Council. Details of defects and work done are supplied in the Inspector's Report.

DEFECTS REPORTED ON IN 1912—1913 AND STILL REMAINING UNABATED.

Drainage of Paulton, Timsbury and Farmborough. Mr. Davey, the Sanitary Surveyor has submitted a scheme for the Sewage Disposal of Rotcombe, in the parishes of High Littleton and Farmborough. The same was approved by the Council and

the work should be carried out at an early date. Schemes for the other parishes mentioned are in course of preparation.

Water Supply at Chew Magna (see page 10)

ACTS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL.

Part 3. Section 30, Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

Infectious Disease Act, 1890.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

I am glad to say Mr. Davey still fills this position.

He has been of the very greatest assistance to me during the year; he has always promptly and efficiently carried out my instructions as regards the Public Health Work of the District.

He has shown very considerable tact and unfailing courtesy in dealing with the various difficult questions arising out of Housing Inspection, and has effected very considerable improvement without having had to ask the Council to take legal proceedings.

Your obedient servant,

R. H. BREW.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY SURVEYOR

AND

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES

CLUTTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

“ BEECH DENE,”

HIGH LITTLETON,

March, 1915.

Mrs. Kettlewell and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Second Annual Report of work carried out under my supervision during the year ending December, 31st 1914.

The area of the district is 39,559 acres, and the population is 16,075.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Inspections.

During the year 1018 visits of inspection have been paid, excluding the House to House inspection. Of these, 83 visits were on complaint or by request, and 935 were to works in progress.

Nuisances.

123 Nuisances were dealt with, and 134 notices given, in connection with the same. I am pleased to say in no instance was it found necessary to institute legal proceedings.

Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act.

During the year, I have inspected 320 houses under the above Act, as against 164 last year.

A total of 519 visits have been paid to premises in connection with this work.

The following Table A shows the number of houses inspected in the various Parishes, and the result of such inspections :—

TABLE A.

Parish.	Number of Houses inspected				Defective but not unfit Houses		
	Houses without Recorded Defects	Defective but not Unfit Houses	Unfit for Habitation	Totals	Number with Defects Remedied	In Hand	Out standing
Cameley	..	I	..	I	I	..	..
Chew Magna	5	II	I4	30	4	7	..
Chew Stoke	..	I	..	I	..	..	I
Chilcompton	..	4	..	4	3	I	..
Clutton	2	6	..	8	2	..	4
High Littleton	..	4	..	4	3	..	I
Farmborough	I	8	..	9	2	..	6
Farrington Gurney	2	..	..	2	..	..	..
Hinton Blewett	..	I	..	I	..	I	
Paulton	66	I78	..	244	23	IO5	50
Stanton Drew	..	2	..	2	2	..	..
Ston Easton	..	2	..	2	..	2	..
Timsbury	..	I2	..	I2	5	4	3
	76	230	I4	320	45	I20	65

The Medical Officer of Health represented 14 houses, situate at Chew Magna, as unfit for human habitation, but no Closing Orders were issued on account of the shortage of houses in this Parish. It is hoped that when the Parish is suitably supplied with water this shortage will be remedied.

With reference to the two houses for which Closing Orders were issued in 1913, the premises still remain unoccupied.

I am pleased to be able to report that the owners generally have given fair attention to the notices sent under this Act, and, in spite of the present crisis, many matters have been remedied, necessitating considerable expenditure.

This work occupies a large amount of time, but, considering the improvements which have, and will be made to property in the district, it is time well spent, and it is to be hoped that the better house accommodation of the future will be fully appreciated by the tenants.

Statutory and other Notices.

In connection with this work, 151 Preliminary and 129 Secondary notices were served, making a total of 280 notices in all. In cases where minor defects were found, or where the provisions of the Housing Acts did not apply, notices were served under the Public Health Act, 1875.

Infectious Disease and Disinfection.

With regard to the work in connection with the above, 59 rooms and 5 shelters have been disinfected with Formalin Vapour after the following cases :—

					Rooms.	Shelters.
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..		22	
Diphtheria	..	..	..		6	
Phthisis	..	..	..		24	5
Measles	..	..	..		1	
Cancer	..	..	..		2	
Puerperal Septicæmia		..	..		2	
Erysipelas	..	..	..		2	
					—	—
					59	5

Total 64 as against 35 last year.

In the Phthisis and Scarlet Fever cases, after removal from the house, or on the death of the patient, the rooms, where practicable, are disinfected by means of spraying with a formic aldehyde or other solution, and the walls stripped and ceilings cleansed before re-occupation. Also in these and all other cases the rooms are fumigated with Formalin Vapour.

In every instance the premises are examined as to their general sanitary condition, and notice is given to the owners of any defects found. Disinfectants and printed instructions as to precautions, etc., are also supplied freely.

Meat and Food Inspection.

Numerous visits have been made to the Slaughter-houses, Butchers' shops, etc., and inspections made of the meat exposed for sale whenever possible.

An effort has been made to visit the premises during the process of slaughtering, as it is absolutely necessary to ensure adequate inspection of the carcasses and organs, that the inspection should be made during or immediately after the animal is dressed, and before the removal from the Slaughter-house of the internal organs. This, however, is very difficult in a rural area on account of the very irregular times of slaughtering.

I am pleased to report that no case of Tuberculosis, either generalized or localized, was discovered.

Slaughter-houses.

There are now 21 slaughter-houses on the Register, all of which are in use. I have paid frequent visits to these and the lime-washing and cleansing has received fair attention,

Common Lodging Houses.

There are none in the district.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 335 persons registered in the district under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders, 315 of which are

cowkeepers ; 193 of the occupiers dispose of the milk locally and in distant towns, and 142 are engaged in butter and cheese making.

There are also two milk factories in the district, taking the milk daily from about 50 farms.

103 visits have been paid to these premises. In 16 instances notices were given to the occupiers to cleanse the premises. Two notices were also given to owners to provide suitable drainage, etc., and this work has been done. The floor of one dairy has also been relaid and the water supply improved, and one cowshed floor repaired.

Water Samples.

During the year the following samples of water have been taken from various wells and springs for analysis :—

	Good	Condemned	Total
Bacteriological Analysis by County M.O.H.	2	4	6
Chemical Analysis by District M.O.H.	—	25	25
Totals	2	29	31

The 25 samples of water condemned by the District M.O.H. were taken in connection with the West Gloucester Bill.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

Bakehouses.

There are 28 now on the register, all of which have been periodically visited, and the necessary lime-washing carried out.

There are no underground bakehouses in the district.

Workshops.

There are 104 other workshops on the register, viz. : Black-

smiths 20 ; Builders, Carpenters, etc., 25 ; Dressmakers, Tailors, etc., 17 ; Shoemakers, 18 ; Saddlers, 5 ; miscellaneous 19 ; and the lime-washing and cleansing is generally satisfactory.

Two notices were received from H.M. Inspector re premises requiring cleansing. I visited the premises and gave the necessary notices and the work has now been done.

Factories.

There are 18 on the register. All have been inspected.

Outworkers.

Ten lists containing 46 names were received from contractors ; 42 were engaged in shoemaking and 4 in tailoring.

I have visited all these premises and found them in a satisfactory sanitary condition.

Petroleum Acts.

There are at present 41 licenses on the register ; 28 for storage of Calcium Carbide, and 13 for Petrol.

During the year 4 new licenses have been granted ; 1 for Calcium Carbide and 3 for Petrol.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

New Buildings, etc.

During the year, 23 Plans for 37 New Buildings were submitted and approved by the Council.

The buildings were distributed over the district as shewn in the following Table B.

TABLE B.

Parish.	Dwelling Houses.	Additions, etc.	Miscellaneous.
Chew Magna	I	—	2
Chilcompton	2	—	I
Chelwood	—	I	—
Publow	2	—	—
Paulton	3	I2	2
Timsbury	3	—	3
High Littleton	—	—	I
Norton Malreward ..	—	2	—
Farrington Gurney ..	—	2	—
Totals	II	I7	9

I7 of the above have been completed and 20 are outstanding.

All new Buildings in course of erection at the commencement of the year have been completed.

I have paid I54 visits of inspection during the progress of work as against 71 last year, and sent 72 letters or notices in connection with the same.

Byelaws.

Three breaches of the Bye-laws were discovered ; one at Chelwood and two at Bishop Sutton. Upon notice being given to the owners the Bye-laws were complied with.

Water Certificates.

10 Water Certificates have been granted in connection with New Buildings during the year, all of which are supplied from the Council's mains.

9 Habitation Certificates were granted.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Public Water Supply to the greater part of the District has been well maintained.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

High Littleton.

In three instances the main Sewers at High Littleton were cleared. With regard to the Batch and Rotcombe, I have been instructed to prepare Schemes for the Sewage Disposal of these parts. My scheme for the latter has already been submitted and approved of by the Council, and it is hoped the work will be executed at an early date.

Farmborough and Paulton.

I have also been instructed to prepare Schemes for the Sewage Disposal of Hobb's Wall, Farmborough, and for the whole of the Village of Paulton. These will be duly submitted to the Council.

Timsbury.

The Slocker has been cleaned out, also the Ditches at Cottle's Corner, and White Horse Lane.

Conclusion.

Office work has demanded a considerable amount of time for the keeping of the necessary Records and for correspondence.

I am, Mrs. Kettlewell and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

REGINALD S. DAVEY, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., etc.

Sanitary Surveyor and Inspector.

